

Examining Privilege Exercise

Read and think about each item below. Circle the items that either fit or described you. After your personal reflection, you will be asked to stand (or raise hand) in response to the items that you circled.

1. My primary ethnic identity is "American."
2. I have never been called names or ridiculed because of my race, ethnicity or class background.
3. I can always vote for candidates who reflect my race.
4. I have immediate family members who are doctors, lawyers, or other professionals.
5. I have never tried to change my physical appearance, mannerisms, language or behavior to avoid being judged or ridiculed.
6. I have never skipped a meal or went away from a meal hungry because there wasn't enough money to buy food.
7. My ancestors came to this country of their own free will and have never had to relocate unwillingly once here.
8. I was told by my parents that I was beautiful, smart, and capable of achieving my dreams.
9. My parents encouraged me to go to college.
10. I commonly see people of my race or ethnicity on television or in the movies in roles that I consider to be degrading.
11. I have received a job, job interview, job training or internship through personal connections of family or friends.
12. I generally think of the police as people that I can call on for help in times of emergency.
13. If I have never felt uncomfortable or angry about a remark or joke made about my race or ethnicity.
14. I don't need to think about race and racism everyday. I can choose when and where I want to respond to racism.